Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 03104 011516Z ACTION L-03

P R 011435Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4020
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION USUN

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GENEVA FOR U.S. DELEGATION TO ECOSOC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, UN, ECOSOC, NO

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: STATE 144233

- 1. E/C COUNSELOR GAVE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY BOGH TALKING PAPER ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS BASED ON STATE 144233 AND ATTACHING PROPOSED U.S. DRAFT RESOLUTION. BOGH REFERRED MATTER TO AMBASSADOR AMLIE IN LEGAL DEPARTMENT WHOM HE HOPES WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN WORKING GROUP AS SCANDINAVIAN REPRESENTATIVE BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER.
- 2. ON BASIS OF TALKING PAPER AMLIE HAS PREPARED POSITION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAPER ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS FOR NORWEGIAN ECOSOC DELEGATION WHICH HE EXPECTS WILL BE APPROVED BY POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEPARTMENTS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY BEFORE WEDNESDAY, JULY 6. AFTER CLEARANCE IT WILL BE SENT TO NORWEGIAN ECOSOC IN GENEVA DELEGATION FOR ITS GUIDANCE.

3. POSITION PAPER AGREES COMPLETELY WITH SUBSTANCE OF

U.S. POSITION BUT EXPRESSED "PRELIMINARY MISGIVINGS" (AMILE'S WORDS) ON PROCEDURES FOR CALLING DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE AND CONSIDERS 1978 MAY BE "PRECIPITATE." IN AMLIE'S OPINION, FOLLOWING SCENARIO OUGHT TO BE FOLLOWED: (1) EXPANDED WORKING GROUP PREPARES DRAFT CONVENTION; (2) DRAFT SHOULD BE PUT BEFORE GOVERNMENTS AND THEN BE RECONSIDERED BY WORKING GROUP IN LIGHT OF THEIR COMMENTS; (3) REVISED DRAFT SHOULD THEN BE REFERRED TO ECOSOC FOR APPROVAL BEFORE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IS CALLED: (4) ECOSOC SHOULD SEND RESOLUTION TO UNGA ATTACHING DRAFT CONVENTION AND CALLING FOR UNGA TO CONVENE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON BASIS OF DRAFT CONVENTION TEXT. AMLIE HAS MISGIVINGS ABOUT APPARENT U.S. SCENARIO. HE BELIEVES DRAFT CONVENTION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY GOVERNMENTS (STEP 2) BEFORE GOING TO ECOSOC SINCE WORKING GROUP MAY NOT BE FULLY REPRESENTATIVE; THAT DRAFT CONVENTION SHOULD BE REFERRED TO ECOSOC (STEP 3) SINCE ECOSOC IS "MOTHER GROUP"; AND THAT UNGA IS APPROPRIATE ORGAN TO CALL DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE (STEP 4), NOT ECOSOC. HE NOTES THAT SEVERAL RECENT UN MEETINGS HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED BECAUSE OF INADEOUATE PREPARATIONS AND OUESTIONS WHETHER ADEQUATE PREPARATIONS AND SCENARIO HE THINKS DESIREABLE CAN BE COMPLETED IN 1978.

4. AMLIE AGREES WITH U.S. THAT ECOSOC SHOULD DECIDE IN PRINCIPLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE CONCLUDED AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS; THAT A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD BE CONVENED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR THAT PURPOSE; THAT THE ECOSOC WORKING GROUP SHOULD BE CONTINUED TO DO PREPARATORY WORK WITH BOTH A CLEAR MANDATE TO DRAFT AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT AND EXPANDED MEMBERSHIP. HE EMPHASIZES THAT HIS "PRELIMINARY MISGIVINGS" ARE PURELY PROCEDURAL AND THAT NORWAY IS PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE.

5. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT U.S. DELEGATION TO ECOSOC MEETING CONSULT WITH NORWEGIAN DEL REGARDING PROCEDURAL POINTS RAISED BY AMLIE.
BREMER

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